

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

(MT-070-05-1990-02)

Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Golden Sunlight Mine in Response to a State Court Decision (September 1, 1994)

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for the Golden Sunlight Mine (GSM) in response to a state court decision dated September 1, 1994, and notice of scoping meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 101(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Montana Environmental Policy Act, the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ, formerly the Department of State Lands) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), as lead agencies, will be directing the preparation of an EIS to be prepared by a third party contractor on the impacts of the 1990 Amendment 008 to the Operating Permit No. 00065 in response to the state court decision and the revised mining plan submitted by GSM in August 1995 as Amendment 009. The Golden Sunlight Mine is located approximately 30 miles east of Butte, Montana, immediately to the northeast of Whitehall.

DATES: Comments during the scoping process will be accepted until November 10, 1995. A public scoping meeting will be held at the school gym in Whitehall, Montana, from 5 to 9 pm.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to Project Coordinator, Montana Department of Environmental Quality,

P.O. Box 201601, Helena, MT 59620, Attn: Mr. Greg Hallsten/Jackie Merritt.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Golden Sunlight Mine, a wholly owned subsidiary of Placer Dome U.S. Inc., has operated a mine and mill complex at this site since 1982. The mine uses conventional open pit mining and vat milling processes to recover gold. Previous amendments have approved the production of 20 million tons of ore and associated tailing material and 90 million tons of waste rock. Amendment 008 increased this to 50 million tons of ore and tailing material and 300 million tons of waste rock. Approximately 100,000 tons per day are mined. The mine life was extended by Amendment 008 to the year 2005.

GSM submitted an application for the expansion, Amendment 008 in 1988,

and following the preparation of an Environmental Assessment, completed on May 30, 1990, and a 30-day public comment period, the Finding of No Significant Impact and Record of Decision were signed on June 30, 1990. There were issues the Environmental Assessment did not resolve and these were addressed by 31 stipulations to the permit. These stipulations included a variety of required monitoring in order to assure the proposed reclamation measures were effective in protecting environmental values. In August 1990 following the issuance of the permit, the National Wildlife Federation and several other environmental interest groups appealed the Record of Decision issued by the Butte District Office of the BLM to the Interior Board of Land Appeals. On March 30, 1992, these same groups filed a suit in Montana State Court alleging the Montana Department of State Lands had failed to enforce the Metal Mine Reclamation Act. On April 15, 1993, the Interior Board of Land Appeals ruled largely in favor of the Bureau regarding the Record of Decision, remanding the decision back to BLM for adjustments to the bond amount on test plots. GSM subsequently supplied additional bond to cover the test plots in question. On September 1, 1994, the State Court ruled against the Department of State Lands, stating the Montana Department of State Lands had violated both the Metal Mine Reclamation Act and the State Constitution.

The decision to prepare an EIS in response to the court's memorandum and order. Environmental concerns have centered on reclamation of the extensive waste rock dump complex, potential acid mine drainage problems, and potential impacts to ground and surface waters.

The EIS will also evaluate and review the environmental impacts of an extensive episode of ground movement in 1994 caused by the re-activation of a previously unknown landslide feature.

Dated: September 28, 1995.

James R. Owings,

District Manager.

[FR Doc. 95-24747 Filed 10-4-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-01-M

[UT-060-05-3800-006, UTU-72499]

Notice of Intent to Prepare a Third Party Environmental Impact Statement for SUMMO USA Corporation Lisbon Valley Open Pit Copper Mine in San Juan County, Utah

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Department of Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a third party Environmental Impact Statement for the SUMMO USA Corporation's Lisbon Valley Open Pit Copper Mine in San Juan County, Utah, and notice of scoping meetings.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Moab Field Office, will be directing the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to be prepared by a third party contractor on the impacts of SUMMO USA Corporation's proposed Lisbon Valley Open Pit Copper Mine. The proposed project would be located on approximately 1000 acres of federal, state, and private lands located in San Juan County, Utah.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: SUMMO USA Corporation of Denver, Colorado proposes to develop an open pit copper mining and heap leaching operation on approximately 1000 acres of private fee lands, state leases and unpatented mining claims in south Lisbon Valley, located approximately 19 miles southeast of LaSal, Utah, in San Juan County, Utah.

The copper ore will be mined by conventional open pit mining methods utilizing drilling, blasting and ripping of the ore and associated overburden. The overburden will be removed and stockpiled and the ore will be loaded with front end loaders onto haul trucks. The ore will be trucked to a centralized pad area, utilizing 15,000 feet of haul roads, where it will be crushed and stacked. The copper will then be recovered by a heap leaching method, utilizing low concentrations of sulfuric acid. The leached copper solution will be further refined by standard solvent extraction and electrowinning processes.

The facilities are designed to mine an average of 16,500 tons of ore per day, to produce 17,000 tons of 99.99% pure copper cathodes per year. SUMMO will employ up to 105 people at one time over the life of the project. The construction work force will be approximately 80 people. Mining will occur 24 hours per day, 7 days a week throughout the project mine life. The project is currently projected to have a 10 year mining life. Processing will continue after mining ceases for an additional year. To the extent possible, reclamation will occur simultaneously with mining. Final closure and reclamation activities will take approximately 5 years.

Prior to initiation of the EIS, public scoping meetings will be held to identify and gather information

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pertinent to the analysis of environmental and socioeconomic impacts associated with this project. The scoping process will involve: (1) identification of issues to be addressed; (2) identification of viable alternatives; and; (3) notification to interested groups, individuals and agencies so that additional information concerning issues may be submitted.

Two public scoping meetings will be held. The first meeting will be held on November 1, 1995, at 7:00 PM in Moab, Utah in the conference room of the BLM office, located at 82 East Dogwood Avenue. The second meeting will be held on November 2, 1995, at 7:00 PM in Monticello, Utah in the BLM office conference room, located at 435 North Main Street.

The scoping process will consist of a news release announcing the start of the EIS process, an open invitation to participate in the scoping process, and a scoping document which further clarifies the proposed action, alternatives, and identified issues. This document will be distributed to selected parties and available upon request.

Written comments will be accepted until November 30, 1995. Concerns or comments should be sent to the District Manager, Bureau of Land Management, P.O. Box 970, Moab, Utah 84532.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lynn Jackson, Project Leader, Moab District Office, P.O. Box 970, Moab, Utah 84532, (801) 259-6111.

Dated: September 28, 1995.

William Stringer,
Acting District Manager.

[FR Doc. 95-24744 Filed 10-4-95; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-DQ-M

State of Arizona Resource Advisory Council Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Arizona Resource Advisory Council Meeting, notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the second meeting of the Arizona Resource Advisory Council. The meeting will be held on November 8-9, 1995. The meeting consists of a 1-day business session and a field tour. The business meeting on November 8, 1995, will be held in the New Mexico Room at the Bureau of Land Management's National Training Center, 9508 N. 31st Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85051. The agenda items to be covered at the meeting will include review of previous meeting minutes, old business, BLM program overview, vegetative slide presentation,

standard and guidelines work group report, working group video, "If a Mountain Could Speak", report on Arizona Preservation Initiative, and a public comment period. On November 9, 1995, a field tour for the Council will take place in the BLM Phoenix District. The tour will leave the Phoenix District Office, located at 2015 West Deer Valley Road, Phoenix, Arizona, at 8 a.m., and will examine rangeland management issues such as riparian and vegetation management, range improvements, wild burro management, and grazing systems. The public is invited to attend but will need to provide their own transportation and meals for the tour.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Clinton Oke, Bureau of Land Management, Arizona State Office, P.O. Box 16563, 3207 N. 7th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85012, (602) 650-0512.

Herman Kaot,
Deputy State Director, Resource, Planning, Use, and Protection Division.

[FR Doc. 95-24745 Filed 10-4-95; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-02-P

[AZ-850-85-1610-00; 1617]

Arizona: Availability of Yuma District Administrative Determination

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the Yuma District administrative determination, Yuma District.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared an administrative determination to incorporate the appropriate decisions from the Phoenix District planning documents into the Yuma District Resource Management Plan in order to create a single, comprehensive planning document for the Yuma District.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 15, 1991, the Phoenix, Safford, and Yuma Districts realigned their boundaries in order to improve the management of the public lands within Arizona. Yuma District received approximately 1.2 million acres from the Phoenix District.

These newly acquired lands in the Yuma District were covered by portions of the Kingman Resource Management Plan (3/95), the Lower Gila North Management Framework Plan (3/83) and the Lower Gila South Resource Management Plan as amended (6/88). The lands within the original boundaries of the Yuma District were

covered by the Yuma District Resource Management Plan (2/87).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For a copy of the document or more information, contact Renewable Resources Advisor Brenda Smith, Bureau of Land Management, 3150 Winsor Avenue, Yuma, Arizona 85365, telephone (520) 226-6300.

This notice is published under authority found in 43 CFR 1610.5-4.

Dated: September 27, 1995.

Judith L. Reed,
District Manager.

[FR Doc. 95-24746 Filed 10-4-95; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-02-P

[CO-856-95-1420-00]

Colorado: Filing of Plats of Survey

September 29, 1995.

The plats of survey of the following described land were officially filed in the Colorado State Office, Bureau of Land Management, Lakewood, Colorado, effective 10:00 a.m. on September 29, 1995.

The plat representing the dependent resurvey of portions of the subdivisional lines and Tract 12 in sec. 8, and the subdivision of certain sections in Township 7 South, Range 100 West, Sixth Principal Meridian, Group 1013, Colorado, was accepted August 11, 1995.

The plat representing the dependent resurvey of a portion of the east boundary and a portion of the subdivisional lines, in Township 5 North, Range 90 West, Sixth Principal Meridian, Group 858, Colorado, was accepted August 13, 1995.

These surveys were executed to meet certain administrative needs of this Bureau.

The plat representing the metes-and-bounds survey of Tracts 37, 38 and 39, Township 3 North, Range 79 West, Sixth Principal Meridian, Group 1078, Colorado, was accepted May 12, 1995.

This survey was executed to meet certain administrative needs of the U.S. Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region.

The plat representing the dependent resurvey of a portion of the subdivisional lines, and the survey of the subdivision of section 14U, Township 34 North, Range 3 West (South of the Ute Line), New Mexico Principal Meridian, Group 764, Colorado, was accepted August 4, 1995.

The plat representing the dependent resurvey of portions of the west and north boundaries, subdivisional lines, and subdivision of sections, and the survey of the subdivision of certain sections in Township 33 North, Range 7